



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **KOHYAMA, Takuro et al.**

Serial No.: **10/049,649**

Filed: **February 25, 2002**

For: **DISK DRIVE APPARATUS**

Group/Art Unit: **2652**

Examiner: **TUPPER, Robert S.**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **7487**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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**AUG 09 2004**

**Technology Center 2600**

**August 3, 2004**

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, together with a copy of a European Search Report.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$ 180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

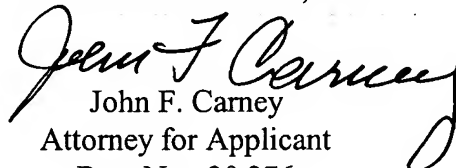
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the

documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: European Search Report  
PTO-1449  
References (3)  
Check for \$ 180.00



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. 020237	Serial No. 10/049,649
	Applicant(s): KOHYAMA, Takuro et al.	
	Filing Date: February 25, 2002	Group Art Unit: 2831

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	6,233,114	Komatsu et al.	5/15/01			
_____	AB	5,859,747	Sawada	1/12/99			
_____	AC						
_____	AD						
_____	AE						

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### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF	EP 0 886 271 A1	12/23/98	EPO	
_____	AG				
_____	AH				
_____	AI				
_____	AJ				

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	
_____	AL	
Examiner		
Date Considered		